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FRIDAY, JANUARY 20, 1922.

## Reclassification.

OUT of all the legislative proposals now pending before Congress the measure that most vitally interests the 80,000 or more government employees in Washington and their families is not the tariff bill, the foreign debt funding bill or any other piece of major legislation, but the one that would ensure their fair and just compensation—the salary reclassification bill. Indeed the proposed legislation is more than local in scope, since under its terms the entire Federal service the country over will ultimately be reclassified. The present system or rather lack of system, by which wide discrepancies in pay for similar or identical work prevail, makes for dissimilation and discouragement. It is hardly necessary to argue the case, the situation is well recognized and strenuous efforts are being put forth to remedy it. But "hope long deferred maketh the heart sick" in the case of the government employees, as with other human beings.

By a splendid piece of team work, that was cordially recognized by legislative leaders old in Congressional service, Representative Lehlbach, of the majority, ably seconded by Representative Black, of the minority, the Lehlbach reclassification bill was passed through the House of Representatives, with only sixty-five votes against it. Nearly all of the House leaders of both sides have shown their earnest desire to heal this sore spot in the public service, do away with the mis-called "bonus" that hurts because it smacks of a gratuity, though it does help to meet expenses, and put the government employment system on a basis of equal pay for equivalent work, with special favors to none.

There likewise seems to be a disposition in the Senate to do justice to public servants by the passage at this session of reclassification legislation. There were some pronounced differences of opinion in the House and these same differences exist in the Senate. But are they irreconcilable? Are they so vital to those who hold them that it is more important to maintain them than it is to put zest into public service by doing tardy justice to the government workers?

This piece of legislation is now in the hands of the Senate Committee on Civil Service. Senator Sterling, to whose efforts are in large measure due the enactment of the long overdue civil retirement bill, may be counted on to do the best that anyone could possibly do to put the salary reclassification bill through the Senate. But can he succeed in enlisting an able lieutenant from the Senate minority, as was done in the House with such good results? There is no politics in this bill, only an opportunity to do justice, to gain good will and tone up the public service. Why not now?

## Enoch Arden of the Plain.

ABOUT the loneliest individual in the world today, apparently, is the man who tends sheep in the outlying Australian paddocks. A good pen picture of his solitary existence is that written by Will H. Ogilvie for the London Daily Mail, as follows:

"Every large sheep station in Australia has upon its territory three or four lonely huts in which live the solitary men who look after the sheep in the remoter paddocks and ride around the wire fences, keeping them in repair.

"These men have, but slight intercourse with the outside world. Once a month, perhaps, the boundary rider may look up his hut and ride to the nearest township, spending a night or two nights away; occasionally he rides in to the head station on business connected with his sheep; once in a while he may be called from his regular work to assist at a lamb marking camp or to join the musterers at shearing time; but for the most part he lives absolutely alone with his dogs and his horses, except for the rare visits of the station ration carrier, the sheep overseer or some passing traveler taking a short cut from one main road to another.

"The boundary rider's hut is generally placed near a creek or permanent water hole in the corner of a large sheep paddock for which he is responsible. As this inclosure may be anything from twenty to sixty miles in circumference a small paddock of twenty to thirty acres is fenced to hold his horses.

"Of these he may have three or four supplied by the station, and he is generally allowed to keep one of his own, so that he has sufficient for his needs even when the hard conditions of flood or drought have partially reduced his stud.

"His close companions, both at his daily work and in his long, lonely evenings, are his sheep dogs. There is no doubt that in many cases these animals supply the reliable strand in the rope which holds such a hermit of the bush from the brink of mental downfall which the peculiar mode of life brings near.

"His hut consists of but a single room. It is built of weatherboard or of rough slabs, like untrimmed railway sleepers, set on end. At one extremity of the hut is a deep fireplace and a chimney of galvanized iron. On the hearth an immense log smolders continuously. Most of the cooking is done in a camp oven, a round pot or three short legs, which is set upon red hot wood cinders

with a generous supply of the same heaped upon its lid. In this are cooked the mutton, the bread, and the 'brownie,' that simple but appetizing cake so dear to the bushman.

"At one side of the small room is the bed, which is simply a rough bunk covered with old bagging or sheepskins and a four-inch layer of gum leaves or pine tassels—a fragrant as well as a soft mattress. On the other side of the room is a small table consisting of a flat sheet of bark on four supports. On a shelf on the wall above it stand a few tins—containing respectively salt, sugar, nails, tobacco, golden syrup, baking powder and strychnine for poisoning dingoes—wild dogs.

"Occasionally the owner makes a mistake regarding the two latter tins and then a vacancy occurs for a boundary rider."

## Treaty Opponents Gather.

APPROACHES the day of thunderings, of battle and rumor of battle in the Senate, that body to which to apply the adjective "august," often leaves one in doubt as to whether overpowering dignity or mid-summer torridity is meant. In other words, it will not be long before the four-power treaty, trembling as it recalls that of Versailles, though with fears comparatively unfounded, is dragged into the presence of the solons for disposition.

That the irreconcilables will immediately spring at its throat was a foregone conclusion before several of them announced their implacable animosity toward the document. Now the New York Tribune describes another group arising and forming a coalition, namely the Wilsonites, who saw the Paris pact go down in defeat.

Nevertheless, believes the Tribune, by no process of extension can the Republican irreconcilables "swell themselves into a company numerous enough to defeat ratification. In 1920, entry into the league of nations was prevented by a coalition between Borahites and Wilsonites. Neither element alone could have achieved success, but together they commanded more than one-third of the Senate. The alliance was an unnatural one, but, in spite of all efforts to disintegrate, the alliance held together and defeated favorable action.

"Now the obvious tactics again are to tie together obstructionists as two years ago. Many stirrings beneath the surface have been visible, and from week to week it is reported, with gaining positiveness, that Mr. Wilson will try to rally to the opposition a group with which the Borah group can do business. So far there has been no public expression, but the weight of opinion seems to be that a hostile declaration will not be much longer delayed and that the excuse (one excuse is as good as another) will be given that the four-power treaty does not 'harmonize' with the constitution of the Geneva league. The idea still seems to prevail that to abate one jot or tittle from this perfect instrument is to profane a Sinitic message.

"How many Senators will obey if a summons comes to them to oppose the Pacific league? How far will partisanship of the most malignant kind triumph over a pretended solicitude for peace? In 1920 some voters shut their eyes to where lodged responsibility for the failure to enter the Geneva league. The record of the roll calls spoke plainly, but it suited prejudices to ignore it.

"But can the same trick be worked a second time? If we are voted out of the four-power league by practically the same persons who voted us out of the Geneva league it is probable that it will be truly known where the blame lodges. To aid in making all Senators understand this is about the best contribution we can make toward securing acceptance of an agreement that lessens the danger of war in the Pacific."

## The Washington Zoo.

FEW visitors come to Washington without paying a visit to the National Zoological Park. Particularly is this true when the weather is more temperate. And, of course, for Washington children and adults it is a source of never-ending delight.

Unfortunately, however, it is far from being as complete as it should be, particularly in view of the fact that it is under the supervision of the Smithsonian Institution and facilities are available to bring from the four corners of the earth the rarest of animals, birds and reptiles. There is no end of space. New houses could be erected without in any way crowding and for the animals capable of living out-of-doors at all seasons there is a wealth of natural setting for the building of caves and enclosures.

Most of the collections are far from complete. Particularly is this true of reptiles, which in many zoos form one of the most interesting and varied exhibitions. There is no reptile house, but in the house where wild animals are quartered, there are a few glass cases in which may be seen a few of the more common varieties of snakes.

There is no aquarium, although with the co-operation of the Bureau of Fisheries, one might easily be installed and maintained.

The collection of elephants (just three) would hardly do credit to a traveling dog and pony show, and there are no giraffes.

This is not intended in any way as a criticism of the officials in charge of the park. They are doing everything possible with the funds available and it costs quite a tidy sum to maintain the establishment as it is. But more money should be made available and the Zoo made the finest in the United States. It is beyond doubt one of the greatest assets Washington has from a standpoint of attracting visitors, but it is also the city's greatest playground and it should be maintained on the most liberal and generous footing possible.

The new silver dollar is to be taken from circulation because the designer put his initials on it, because it is too thin, because it won't stack, and for nineteen other reasons. But nobody hates the new coin sufficiently to refuse one. Anything that bears the slightest resemblance to money is sure of some consideration.

Early to bed and early to rise makes a man healthy, wealthy and wise—in some cases. But I know several men who don't get up until 9 o'clock and don't go to bed until midnight, and they have made several million apiece.

There was once a woman who got dressed on time, but the clock was two hours fast.

"Jazz is going," says a dance expert. Yes, it seems to be going very well.

## GODS OF GALLERY BACK ON RIALTO, MUSES MAKE

Return to Legitimate Theater After Long Stay at Movies.

By O. O. MINTYRE.

NEW YORK, Jan. 19.—Thoughts while strolling around New York: A blizzard day. Somewhere a big driftwood fire is crackling. And I stand dumbly by the herd waiting for a traffic light. A blink. Cared in by sullen towers of steel. John Drew wearing a checked black and white collar. An ancient Jew humming "Ril, Ril, The tripping rattle of stone drillers."

The lighthouse where the blind go to be entertained. A theme for an epic. The Raquel Club. Calaveras' plans. Dances. Lustrous chandeliers. And gloomy upper-class servants with ears cupped for scandal. An Apollo in tweeds. Flying a big, red mustache.

Too much snobbery around here. I'll go a few blocks east where the boys shave the back of their necks. And eat soup with an echo. Scarred "Furnished Room" signs on every door. Milk bottles and grocery packages line the windows. The janitors have disarming smiles.

Gloomy notion stores with owners nodding near the windows. I'll buy a button. And sew it on myself to make my wife think I'm neglected. Truer drivers with deep-breasted chests mouthing good-natured threats while waiting for pay checks.

Dancing academies and movies with thrills. "Once aboard the lugger and the sea is mine"—and all that sort of thing. Lolly-pop sucking children with smeared happy faces. The cellar coal and kindling dealers always use their first names. Such as and Mike. Reminds me the biggest coal dealer in New York is named Burns.

The shopping district of Thirty-fourth street. Limousines three rows deep. Chauffeurs robed in furs and stealing puffs at their cigarettes. Women with nerves rubbed raw bartering for silks and satins. There's something novel. A window filled with buggy whips. Giddap Napoleon!

It has been discovered that a man can live in Forest Hills, L. I. work in the financial district, dine in the Hotel Commodore, shop in Wana-makers, dance at the Pennsylvania, go to any one of five banks and carry all his town business without going outdoors. Sounds nice, but the trick in it is having to live at Forest Hills.

The gallery gods reign again along the Rialto. Has come back to roost and roar in the balcony of the regular theaters. Since the advent of the motion picture there has been a steady falling off in "gallery gods." They are the life of the theater's finance. Without a top-heavy house no show would succeed. It was easy to see why they foregoed their seats for the silent thrills of the theater. Why have they returned to the legitimate theater is not made plain. Unless perhaps they have grown tired of the celluloid drama.

In one of those soulful post moons from eating onions or something, I crashed down at my club and was flue at the wrong time at Fifth avenue and Forty-second street miraculously avoiding taxicabs and was in the middle of the street when I felt a tap at my collar and a small wafted curfew. A glowering crowd stood over me. My impulse was to call him a "big, hulking brute," but he was smaller than I. So I asked him for a match.

## Norris Wants Choice Of President Direct

Senator Norris, of Nebraska, has introduced a resolution in the Senate proposing an amendment to the Constitution that would give the people the right to elect the President and Vice President directly by the people. The measure is supported not only by those who believe the electoral machinery should be modernized, but by the elimination of an ancient device which has not served its purpose for more than a century, but by the direct primary method of nominating candidates for President and Vice President.

One of the principal obstacles to provision for the election of the President and Vice President by the people is the existing electoral system, which is a relic of the past. The direct primary method of nominating candidates for President and Vice President is a more modern and efficient method of selecting the President and Vice President.

Under the existing system, the President and Vice President are elected by the electors, who are chosen by the people in each State. This system is a relic of the past and is a hindrance to the efficient government of the United States.

"When our forefathers adopted the Constitution," says Senator Norris, "they were not aware of the fact that the electors would become a body of men who would not be directly elected by the people, but would be chosen by the electors in each State. This is a relic of the past and is a hindrance to the efficient government of the United States."

"It was intended that these Presidential electors should exercise a discretion in the selection of the President and Vice President, but they have become a body of men who would not be directly elected by the people, but would be chosen by the electors in each State. This is a relic of the past and is a hindrance to the efficient government of the United States."

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## Making the Pacific Ocean Safe to Swim In.

—By J. N. Darling.



## Open Court Letters to The Herald

Other People's Views on Current Events

### Develop U. S. Transportation.

To the Editor, The Washington Herald: As the family, properly educated, is the backbone of a nation, so transportation, if properly adjusted, is the economic backbone of the world.

If the moral tone of the family is lowered in that degree the nation becomes a field for adventurers and moral virtues, who exploit the less resistant to their own advantage; or, by plot and intrigue capture the strongholds and use them against those who have produced, and rob, pillage and destroy, until the power to produce and transport breaks down, when ruin, famine and pestilence stalk through the land.

This has been and is now being demonstrated in Russia under Bolshevik control. To save her transportation must be restored; without it the back is broken and there is no power to stand or to act as a body politic.

Transportation, to be efficient, must use every facility within the power of the individual, corporation, municipality or state to keep things moving, and the vehicles, trucks, cars or ships must be unloaded and returned as rapidly as possible. The result will be a saving in the cost of production and in the case of perishables and the coming of high prices if not speedily put on the market.

There was a great cry of shortage in cars with which to carry coal to the consumer, when the truth is transportation for some cause was held up and thousands of cars were lying idle upon sidings. The result was that prices ran up and when they got up some one would keep them up while the consumer footed the bill.

Recent times were a tie-up of freight in the yards adjacent to Washington and long lines of cars stood upon the tracks, with no means for quick unloading and return to the producer, and prices boomed. So far as it is known no attempt has been made to enlarge the terminals or install means for quick unloading.

Many times whole trainloads of fruits have been dumped and potatoes rotted from the same cause. Is it not time, then, that our business and commercial organizations should keep pace with the crying need for suitable terminals and up-to-date methods for unloading?

Take our infantile, but growing, merchant marine. How can we have it if we do not prepare for it with port terminals, etc? Are they now sufficiently large and commodious, and equipped with the machinery to make them efficient? Are they keeping pace with the crying need for suitable terminals and up-to-date methods for unloading?

Our nation must wake up and get into speedy action at once if it is to succeed. Take one instance of petty causes which prevent better establishment of lines of communication between the Atlantic coast and the interior, through local objections. Here is a proposition of utilizing our Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence River with whatever canalization may be needed to make a great waterway. Minnesota and Michigan, rich in native ores of a high-grade iron and copper, are eager for it, while a great city in the Atlantic coast is not interested. Is she interested in some other scheme in which she has invested a few of her local dollars? Would she hold up an interstate necessity on some petty local plea?

Would any of us through local selfishness wrap ourselves in a cloak of criminal neglect and let the hungry world starve? It needs our foodstuffs, our iron, our copper, our cotton and wool. We have the ships to carry them and shall

Communications will not be returned unless specific request for such return is made and stamped enclosed. Letters should be typewritten whenever possible. Communications extremely difficult to read will not be considered. No communications signed with fictitious names will be used.

Have more but we must have means for carrying them speedily. Have the New York subways ruined surface travel? No sooner has one been built than preparations must be made to build another. The ferries across the Hudson have the tunnels under the river impaired their traffic on the surface? No sooner is one tunnel built than plans are drawn for the construction of another.

All should labor to keep the wheels turning and if possible make them go faster.

AMERICUS.

### Waxes Satiric on Gas.

To the Editor, The Washington Herald: Shame on those backward spirits who continue to oppose the brilliant achievements of science. Deprive the human race of all the products of science, and life would not be worth living. In fact for most of us it would be impossible. Who could imagine a greater calamity?

Yet we are constantly reminded that science has had to fight for every inch of her domain against superstition and religious bigotry. For centuries the discoverer of a new truth proclaimed it at the peril of his life. And it is due almost entirely to the conquest of science that such conditions do not exist today. However, the common herd are too stupid to do more than look on in wonder. They can not lend any assistance, and will not give their approval.

What if the aid of science is called upon in that kind of outdoor sports known as war? What if it hides fear to reduce it just to plain killing of human beings? It makes it much more interesting and will give the victors the triumph.

Even chemical warfare we are told by Gen. Fries is the most humane method of slaughtering young men. Besides it is a most effective means of defense. It kills off the boneheads and promotes the survival of the fittest.

The general also discloses the fact that the after effects of gas on those not fatally injured are much exaggerated. It is mainly psychological. It is just a bit amusing that he should speak of the personal interest of some of the opponents of chemical warfare in an address to gas manufacturers.

Personally, we have always opposed poison gas, because a mask is not an artistic headgear, and we dislike to look ludicrous. However, the general has that objection covered in his reminder we shall make a handsome corpse. So give us chemical warfare and lots of it. It is a great comfort to know our friends will be able to truthfully say, "Doesn't he look natural?"

E. C. HELM.

Mount Rainier, Md.

### Lawyer's Appreciation.

To the Editor, The Washington Herald: Fifty years' practice before the United States Patent Office may justify an expression of opinion on the desired increase of salaries of Patent Office officials and employees. In the case of many the compensation hardly warrants the term "salary."

The word "patience" is more appropriate. I appeared before and knew well all the commissioners from Gen. Leggett, in 1871, down in succession to 1920, as also all the assistant commissioners, the board of appeals, the interference examiners and the primary examining agents, and attested to the ability, integrity and courtesy of all those underpaid men. Within my recollection there was never, except in one instance, a shadow of suspicion thrown upon any division of the office, and in that case the accused party was fully exonerated.

No inventor visits the Patent Office without being made to feel at

home at once. He is met in the search room, where he goes to learn if his invention is new, by a capable chief and police assistants who direct him to the relevant class of drawings. Similar aid and civility is extended to him in the assignment and drafting divisions, the scientific library, the law library, and indeed wherever he may make inquiry. There is no more popular institution than the Patent Office, which protects not only the American inventor but also the American public in the purchase of United States patents granted to foreign inventors. But for the United States Patent Office few important foreign inventions would be introduced to the American public.

Immediate relief of the Patent Office is a matter of personal and political interest to legislators. That office is a cherished object of pride and regard to a vast majority of their constituents. It is true whether we consider those interested in the useful development of engineering, mechanics, electricity, chemistry and other sciences, or the agriculturists of the country, which are not indebted to the Patent Office for the improvements mentioned.

There is not a railroad track, or an iron bridge, or a metal-reinforced concrete pier, or a tunnel, or through which these legislators pass, no switch or signal insuring their safety from instant death in travel, no perfection of locomotive nor safety or luxury of day or sleeping car which these legislators enjoy in moving between their home towns and the National Capital each detail of which has not passed under Patent Office scrutiny, and never have met with introduction.

This is, but also, whether the invention be a carpet tack, a collar button, an acetylene gas adaptation or the omnipresent music producer or motion picture.

For the past year and a half I have been in Connecticut, the most inventive State in the country; and having seen the inner working of many of the larger silk, woolen, cotton and other mills and factories engaged in diversified manufactures have wondered where this rich little State would have been today in economic and material importance but for the benefit which it has derived from the carefully administered Patent Office. By that judgment, as I know by a practice before the Federal courts since 1876, these courts in their decisions in patent matters have not materially aided in their elucidation of technical questions outside of the usual branches of law.

GEORGE H. HOWARD.

### Would Deport Dr. Crafts.

To the Editor, The Washington Herald: The next investigation by Congress should be a strict inquiry into the work and relations of the most dangerous men in America, a professional agitator named Crafts, a lobbyist and disburser of funds derived from secret sources.

Crafts is a continual slanderer of this country and its people. He denigrates rarely anyone, according to their elucidation of technical questions outside of the usual branches of law.

It is little wonder that the churches are well nigh empty when such men as Crafts are welcomed in their pulpits. If the United States is not good enough for this Puritan there are British ships sailing to his dear England, where he and "Fussyfoot" may find some useful work to do. It is certain that Crafts would not be allowed to slander any nation or people as he maligns America and Americans.

Depot Crafts! Americanically.

M. CROMBIE.

## INDIANS MINE GOLD BY ROBBING ANCIENT GRAVES

Precious Images Found In South America Are Lost to Science.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 20, 1922.

American Society for Steel Treatment. Washington Chapter, Washington Hotel, tonight, 8 o'clock. "A Comparison of American and English Methods of Producing High-Grade Crucible Steels," by T. Holland Nelson, steel works manager, Henry Dismont and Sons Company, Philadelphia, Pa.

"The Place of Nutrition in the Physical Education of the School Child" will be the subject of an illustrated lecture by Mrs. J. G. Council, Wisc. director Illinois McCormick memorial fund of Chicago, at the annual meeting of the Washington Tuberculosis Association, Constitution Club, tonight, 8 o'clock. Dr. Frank W. Ballguy, superintendent District public schools, will speak on "Six Points in School Hygiene."

The latest method of gold-mining is grave-robbing. Modern Indians of western South America have discovered that buried in the mounds that contain the skeletons of their ancient ancestors there also can be found gold trinkets. They burrow into these, claim the trinkets as an inheritance, and melt these priceless relics of America's wonderful pre-Columbian civilization into gold of commerce. According to Indian standards, it is a paying business, and they make a better living at this work than by ordinary day labor.

Archaeologists of the Bureau of American Ethnology of the Smithsonian Institution declare that such practices are destroying forever the early Spanish explorers are filled with descriptions of these golden articles, some of which were as large as cart wheels.

Large images of gold and silver were made by the pre-historic goldsmiths. The records of the early Spanish explorers are filled with descriptions of these golden articles, some of which were as large as cart wheels.

## NEW YORK CITY FULL OF RENTED HOMES.

Fewer New Yorkers own their own homes than do inhabitants of any large city in America. There are 1,275,341 homes in New York City and only one-seventh are owned by the occupants. This is revealed in a study made by the Division of Building and Housing of the Bureau of Standards, which included cities of the United States having a population of over 100,000. Des Moines, Iowa, with over half, or 51.1 per cent, of its 21,644 homes owned by their occupants, has the best record.

## NO INCREASE OF INFLUENZA HERE.

Health statistics of the United States so far as received by the Public Health Service here show no marked increase in prevalence of influenza or pneumonia, officials say in commenting upon reports from the cities of the United States suffering with a severe influenza epidemic.

Since the severe epidemic in this country in 1918-19 and the milder one in 1920, influenza has not appeared in epidemic form in this country. Studies made by Public Health Service statisticians show that in 1920-21, thirty years ago, the United States had a severe influenza epidemic in epidemic form in cycles of about thirty years.

The appearance of what is called "black smallpox" or a virulent form of smallpox in three middle western States, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Kansas, has caused some alarm. This particular form of smallpox is characterized by a very high mortality rate, and is very contagious. It is the same disease as the one which caused the epidemic in 1918-19, but it is much more severe. Many deaths, typhoid fever and other diseases, occur with varying severity. General increases in deaths of pneumonia and influenza are shown, but the officials say that they are the usual and expected increases that come with the season.

Although the Gregorian calendar is a great improvement over the Julian, which it replaced, it still involves a slight error amounting to a day in 128 years. This was in turn corrected by making the year 4,000 and all its multiples (8,000, 12,000, etc.) common years instead of leap years.

W. D. C.

## WHO'S WHO IN THE DAY'S NEWS.

Major John G. Emery, who became commander of the American Legion last June, is credited Col. Fredrick W. Galbraith, who was in turn succeeded by two months ago by Col. Sanford M. Nider, is launching a career in the United States Army, according to advices from Grand Rapids, Mich., where he lives. It is said he aspires to be a Statesman, and will seek the nomination in opposition to the present

Senator, Charles E. Townsend, whose term will expire in 1925, and who hopes to be named to succeed him.

Maj. Emery is one of the seven commissioners who govern Grand Rapids. He has a gallant war record, having been decorated with the Alame-Noyon offensive, he served as captain of F Company, Eighteenth Infantry, First Division. He acquitted himself so well that he was made major just before the St. Mihiel attack, in which he took part. In the Argonne offensive he was severely wounded.

As commander of the legion he headed 250 legionaries who went to France and Belgium last summer as guests of those countries for the dedication of permanent American memorials there. He received many decorations, but the trip provoked factional feeling, which led finally to the election of Col. M. Nider as commander. Maj. Emery turned the decorations of the trip over to the legion, saying he had never regarded them as personal.

Depot Crafts! Americanically.

M. CROMBIE.